

OUR NEXT-DOOR NEIGHBORS.

Pickings by Star Reporters in Neighboring Cities and Towns.

DANVILLE, KY.

NOTICE.—W. Ed. Singleton is the agent for the STAR at this place. Orders may be left at the clothing house of Cohn & Jacobs, and will receive prompt attention.

The improvement on the new European Hotel at this place is about finished. It is the finest in the State, outside of Louisville.

There are fourteen graduates of Centre College this year. The commencement exercises will be held in the Second Presbyterian Church, Monday and Tuesday of this week.

The Democratic mass meeting held June 5th, at the Court-house, was largely attended, and the following gentlemen were appointed to represent the Democracy at Lexington, June 17th: M. J. Durham, D. W. Jones, R. J. Breckenridge, Samuel Bottom, J. W. Potts and J. R. Marrs. It was resolved to instruct for Captain R. D. Logan as a delegate to the National Convention from the Eighth District.

The commencement exercises of Bell Seminary were held in the First Presbyterian Church of this place Wednesday evening of last week. The church was beautifully decorated. There were four graduates this year. The rolls of honor were read out by Mr. J. L. Allen, Principal, and showed that there had been a good attendance, and that the institution has been well conducted. Thursday evening Mrs. and Mr. Allen gave an entertainment at their residence, which was largely attended, the yard and buildings being nicely illuminated, and a most delicious table was set for the students and their friends.

MIDDLETOWN, O.

Go and see baby Sheridan to-night. The school concert, given last evening was largely attended.

A small daughter of Mr. King's was buried yesterday morning.

H. W. R. Brunner, of Dayton, Ohio, was in our city yesterday on business.

One of the heaviest storms that has visited our city for a number of years was that of last Sunday. A great number of trees and fences were blown down.

The number of fish that is caught by parties using nets is small in comparison to the number that is killed by the bleach turned into the river every week by the paper mills. Put that in your pipe and smoke it.

Joshua Gudgen, while coming up Main street yesterday morning, slipped and fell down the cellar-way under the First National Bank, injuring himself quite severely. He was taken up and conveyed to his residence on Main street.

A German by the name of Groffenstein was badly hurt Sunday evening by a stone striking him in the calf of the leg and severing an artery, thrown by a boy by the name of Lewis, for insulting language used by Groffenstein about the boy's mother.

HOL HO! FOR THE FOURTH OF JULY.—There will be a tub race on the Fourth, starting from the long bridge above town, to go one-quarter of a mile. Eight tubs have already been entered. This will be one of the most laughable sights ever witnessed. There will also be a grand picnic in Doty's Grove, given by the members of the Holy Trinity Church. Dancing will be one of the main features of the day.

WASHINGTON, C. H. O.

James Rankin, a Jefferson Township farmer, aged fifty-three years, committed suicide on Saturday last. Mr. Rankin owned about four hundred acres of excellent land; was entirely out of debt; had no bad habits; had no known domestic troubles, and in every respect (except it may be lack of health) was the last man one would expect to die by his own hands. He appeared in his usual health and spirits on Saturday morning, gave intelligent and careful direction about the farm work, and about 8 o'clock he passed through a field where his sons were at work, stopped and conversed with them about their work, and repeatedly urged them to be good boys. He then went to the woods, a short distance away, climbed a tree he had apparently selected with great care, tied a plow line to a limb, adjusted the other end to his neck, and jumped off. His body was found five or six hours afterwards.

GREENSBURG, IND.

Commissioners' Court was in session all last week and continues this week.

If the Street Commissioner would put in the time, which he is spending in the middle of the streets, in repairing and leveling the pavements, it would be work utilized to an advantage.

The Commissioners appointed Dr. J. C. French as attending physician to the Poor Asylum, at nearly double the price that Dr. Armstrong took the same contract for last year. French was a good change.

A. Resenthal & Co. and Chas. B. Kessing & Co., dry goods merchants, of Cincinnati, each have an auxiliary branch store at this place for the purpose of disposing of refuse stock or such goods as are not salable in the city.

Greensburg has rougher and worse pavements than any other town of its size in Indiana. This is a shame and should be remedied in some way. The City Council could pass an ordinance requiring property owners to put a smooth stone pavement in front or at the side of their respective lots.

At the Republican Congressional Convention held at the Court-house last Wednesday Curley Tackett, in a short speech, characterized Hon. W. H. Holman, who has served in Congress for fifteen years, as the "Prince of Democratic demagogues." The expression was in bad taste and very indecorous, to say the least.

Jim Hart will probably be the nominee on the Democratic ticket for County Treasurer for the next term, and John

Bobbitt is thinking of running on the same ticket for Auditor when the time comes. "Cast not your pearls before swine," boys, for we expect that Deatur County will go Republican entirely for a long time to come.

Johany Shannon was surprised, and he and his many friends are highly gratified to learn that he had received the appointment of night operator here at \$35 per month. John is an intelligent, deserving fellow and we are glad of his promotion. Frank Moody, former night operator, will return to Whites-town to engage himself as grocery clerk.

URBANA, O.

W. W. Deming, an employee of M. H. Crane's stove foundry, has been ill, and is now recovering.

John James, of the U. S. R. S., is a happy man; it is a daughter. Mother and child are doing well.

A heavy thunder storm passed over Urbana Sunday afternoon, and an immense quantity of rain fell.

Mrs. Jones, the colored woman who was struck by the man Anderson, is recovering. Anderson has left for parts unknown.

An ice cream and strawberry entertainment of the young ladies of Class No. 1 was held on Sunday evening in the Lutheran Church-yard.

Prof. Snavely of Cincinnati, who has been teaching writing and drawing in this city for the past three years, gave an exhibition Friday at the Central Ward School Hall, where were to be seen some very fine specimens of writing and drawing, executed by the members of all the grades from the Intermediate Department to the Senior High School.

More names will be added to the Garfield and Arthur Club at the end of the week.

Mr. Charles Nagel has finished his enumeration of census for the Bellevue District.

The Wenderoth trial to-night, before Mayor Morgan, is causing considerable interest.

Charley Finch has arrived home to his old stamping ground after a year's absence in Texas and New Mexico.

The river was rising very fast this morning and full of drift on this shore of every description. About a dozen skiffs went down the river and three were caught by Chas. Dolman.

The heavy rain storm last night proved very disastrous in this section. Trees are uprooted in every direction, streets washed out, the bricks in the brick-yard melted down as if never moulded. The farmers in this section suffer the most. On the hill-side their crop is washed right from their roots, and in the lowlands they are flooded in a way that makes their crop prospects look very discouraging. An old citizen who is competent to judge by a residence of thirty years in the Highlands, says in that length of time he has never witnessed as heavy rain as fell between one and two o'clock this morning.

VINCENNES, IND.

M. Lyons returned home to Louisville Saturday night.

Messrs. Moritz Cahn and S. J. Lowenthal, of Evansville, were in the city.

Philip Phillips will lecture to-night at the M. E. Church instead of the Opera House.

Our old Post Base-ball Club will play a match with Washington's champions next Sunday.

Democratic Gubernatorial and State ticket ratification meeting Saturday night was well attended.

Scarlet fever and the measles prevail among small children in almost an epidemic form here. Within the last four weeks more than twenty have been laid in their last resting place.

HAMILTON.

McGreedy is the moneyed man of Council.

Council failed last night to get a quorum.

Joseph Rodefer went to Lebanon yesterday on business connected with the Lodge.

The funeral of Mr. Louis Sohngen's little daughter took place from the residence yesterday. The Rev. G. H. Treble, of Zion's Church, officiating.

Fred. Bush, of Basin street, has signified his intention to have a Chinese clerk, owing to the cheapness of their labor and the attraction which they furnish.

Yesterday's wickedness comprised John Jacobson on a warrant for fighting Max Meiss for disorderly conduct, Jno. Knox for fighting and T. A. Young for using profane language.

The Stars will play the Clippers, of Cincinnati, June 27th, instead of July 4th, as heretofore stated. They are both amateur but well-trained clubs, and a lively game may be expected.

Superintendent Hancock, of Dayton lectures to-morrow night at the Opera house on "The Usages of the Higher Education." We are substantially informed that his lecture this season will be one of more than usual interest, and all friends of education should turn out and give the gentleman a hearty welcome.

At the next meeting of City Council an ordinance will be presented to fix the salary of the Librarian and Assistant Librarian of the Lane Free Library, and prescribe their duties. Section 1.—That the salary of Librarian be \$450 per annum, and that of Assistant \$150.

Our citizens are expected to celebrate the Fourth of July on Monday, the 5th instant, owing to the fact that that memorable day is never ushered in on Sunday. Preparation is necessary and a liberal reception of the members of the Society Committee will do much toward insuring such an one that a rendition of the programme will make glad the heart of every patriotic citizen. Let our celebration be so grand that the cities around us will look on in wonder.

Last Sunday morning George Weller entered Hauser's saloon on High street to get a glass of beer. Meeting a company of friends he stayed about ten minutes to converse with them,

when he left the premises to go home. Shortly after leaving he discovered that he had lost his silver watch and chain and immediately suspicioned the parties in the saloon of having taken it. Officers were notified and James Burns and William Regan were taken in custody on suspicion of having a hand in the game. They had a hearing before Mayor Eger last night, Burns being dismissed and Regan held in the sum of \$300 to await the action of the Grand Jury. Regan is a young man of pleasant appearance and good family, and has always borne a good name.

The graduating exercises of the Hamilton Public Schools will take place at Dixon's Opera-house on Friday evening, June 18th. We give the programme in full:

Overture—From "The Banditti's Frolic,"...Suppe
Invocation
Chorus—"The Earth is the Lord's,"...Motette
B. Klein.
Essay—"The Wonders of Nature,"...Bertha Gerber
Essay—"The Cæcilian Season,"...Carrie M. Jacobs
Chorus—"Spring,"...Anna S. Goldrick
Chorus—"The Companionship of Authors,"...Karl Marx
Essay—"Women as Contributors to Literature,"...Anna M. Shaffer
Chorus—"The Wind Whispers Low,"...Weber
Potpourri—"The Rose Tree,"...Verdi
Oration—"Immortal Names,"...George Beardsley
Chorus—"The Pleasures of Home,"...Mueller
Essay—"Fortune Knocks at Every Man's Door,"...Bertha L. Schliep
Essay—"The Evil with the Good,"...Vickie E. Smith
Chorus—"Sweet Birds in Forest Green,"...Volkswiese
Essay—"Look Also to You,"...Anna Harrison
Essay—"The Romance of History,"...Lucy B. Crawford
Chorus—"To the Woods,"...Vocal March—Becker
Music—"Morning Journal Waltz,"...Strauss
The lightning struck the C. H. & D. Depot last night, but no damage was done. The entire department was called out during the heaviest rain.

DAYTON, O.

The first step in the building of a new Court-house—that of excavation—will begin to-day.

We are having an abundance of rain in this section. If it does not check up shortly it will injure the fast-approaching harvest.

The Albini Italian family play almost nightly at Christ Becker's saloon on East Fifth street. Christ is immense on selecting good music.

The following marriage licenses were issued yesterday by the Probate Court: Henry Seas and Florence Trimble, Jas. E. Saum and Alice M. Stump.

The Sisters in charge of St. Elizabeth Hospital tender their heartfelt thanks to the Board of Directors of St. Elizabeth Hospital for a donation of \$20.

Mrs. Schwind, a resident of Ziegler street, is building two brick residences on the corner of Ziegler and Ludlow streets, facing Ludlow. One is a two-story and the other is a story-and-a-half.

Rev. David Smith, who is now in the ninety-seventh year of his age, preached in the Aker A. M. E. Church last Sunday. He has been an active minister for eighty years, and still manifests energy in the cause and enjoys good health.

A large party of the members of the Harmonia Society of this city, were passengers on the train last evening for Akron to attend the Central Ohio Sangerfest in session there this week. The party will probably not return to Dayton before Friday.

The High School commencement will take place at Music Hall this evening. Doors will be open at 7:30, and not earlier. Visitors are instructed to exclude children. Pupils and ticket-holders, but no others will be admitted at stage entrance at 7 o'clock.

Saturday, June 12th, was the fiftieth wedding anniversary of John and Priscilla Byers, West Dayton, and the day was not allowed to pass by unnoticed. Quite a number of the friends, children and grandchildren of the old couple took dinner with them, and an enjoyable time was had by all.

The following is a list of the arrests made yesterday: John J. Stocklin, charged with assault and battery; Chas. Cooper, drunk and disorderly; William Seelitz, disturbing the peace; Lizzie Bushrick, drunk and disturbing the peace; Peter Flynn, drunk. No arrests were made during the fore part of last night.

Yesterday afternoon a little boy in crossing the foot-bridge over the hydraulic race in the rear of the Osceola mills, fell off. Mr. Geo. Miller, bearing the cries of the little fellow, ran to the bridge and pulled him out. He was not injured, but seriously frightened and well drenched, and tested the capacity of his lungs as well as any other small boy in Dayton ever did.

One of the grandest and most important picnics of the season will be given at Ludlow Falls, twenty-one miles from Dayton, June 23d. The Falls are beautifully located in a thickly-settled country, and the grounds selected for the picnic consist of a cedar grove containing about one hundred acres. The music for the occasion will be furnished by the reputed Fourth Regiment O. N. G. Band. No liquor will be sold on the ground. Further mention in the future will be made of time and fare.

At about two or three o'clock a. m. yesterday, a party of pilferers made a raid on Bainbridge street, breaking in the church, taking a silver bowl, and then into Father Goetz's residence, which they went through, taking some silver spoons and a couple of dollars in silver. They then proceeded to gain entrance to Mr. Myers' dwelling next door, but a son of Mr. Myers' hearing them looked out of a window in his sleeping department, and saw their maneuvers, awakened his brother, and they both, armed with a revolver, went down stairs to the kitchen to give them a reception. They found one already inside when they reached the department. Stealthily opening the door, one of the boys fired away in the direction of the noise. There was a crash of broken glass followed, and a silence prevailed. The thief went through a window taking the cash with him, and made his escape through the back alley.

THE NEW CULT IN CLOTHES.

Characteristics of the Fashionable Mania for Individuality in Dress.

[Springfield Republican.]

The attack on the corset by the new cult in clothes is, in fact, like Eastlake's concealed but rooted purpose to get a chair in which no man can comfortably put his feet on the mantel-piece, the sign and symbol of a determined attempt to tear up the whole theory of feminine clothing by the roots and corset-laces, so to speak. Hitherto, as is well known, every woman has worn what the other wanted to have. Under the new dispensation every woman is to wear what the other woman hasn't and can't get.

The new cult worships the clothing neither of Paris nor yet of New York, but lays the whole past under contribution. A young mother in New York the other day—it is only necessary to say that this occurs in the New York correspondence of a Western paper to assure a waiting world of its truthfulness—dressed as Murillo's Madonna in blue velvet and a girdle and received her friends with her feet resting on a footstool curved like a crescent moon. There is another votary who cuts her tea gown like the heavy and clinging robes of the Mater Dolorosa, and in England the mania which began with the Morrises (a Morrises is a sort of Swedenborgian of the Eastlake cult) has spread till the galleries of the Royal Academy exhibition swarmed with feminine figures dressed in historic revivals of Holbein and Rubens and Van Dyke, who seemed to have stepped from the picture frames. It is a mere question of time, and a very short time, before the new cult is practiced here, and fair women will lay aside conventionalism like a garment and dress in their own sweet fancy. Decorative art is but the portal and passage-way to decorative dress, which a woman will design for herself and charge to her husband. For him there is but one bulwark and protection, the assertion, which already is thick sown in the English press, that a clever woman can dress to please herself on less money than she has spent in the past in dressing to please her neighbors.

How Russian Peasants Killed a Witch.

[Petersburg Journal.]

In the village of Mordovskiy Park lived a woman, Agaphena Chindaykina, known among the village population as a witch. This opinion she rather encouraged than otherwise, reaping substantial profits from her alleged witchcraft. In order to keep up her dangerous reputation Agaphena, from time to time, appeared at midnight, her hair disheveled, and in a white dress, walking in the streets and even entering the yards of the peasants. On the night of May 24 Agaphena was discovered in the cellar of one of her neighbors. Enraged at the thought of the troubles that might ensue from her visit, he furiously assaulted her, grasping her by the hair and beating her mercilessly with a fence stake, which is popularly held to be the only effective weapon against witches and sorcerers.

The members of the family rushed out of the house at his outcry and took an active part in the chastisement of Agaphena. They dragged her by her hair over the ground, and inflicted numberless blows with sticks. Then the neighbors, aroused by the confusion, appeared on the scene. In order to prevent the witch from mysteriously vanishing the peasants tied her firmly to a pillar with old reins, which, according to the current notions, witches are unable to loosen.

The husband of Agaphena and her father-in-law used their utmost efforts to pacify the villagers and to save the life of the wretched woman. But all was in vain. The enraged populace shouted, "Beat her squarely, break her arms and legs!" And the beating was resumed with an increased ferocity. At last the local authorities made their appearance and put an end to the savage work, but it was too late to save the life of Agaphena. When untied from the pillar she fell on the ground a lifeless corpse.

Capital Punishment in China.

[St. Petersburg Globe.]

Appropos of the sentence just pronounced upon Chun Hou, formerly the Ambassador of China at this court, Prof. Vassilief furnishes the following explanations: According to the latest Pekin newspapers, Chun Hou, though condemned to be beheaded, is not immediately put to death, but kept in prison for the present. Capital sentences are promptly carried out in the case of insurgents and certain other classes of criminals, where delay might endanger the peace of the country. In such cases even the local Magistrate is empowered to summarily take life if he deems it necessary. But ordinarily the executions throughout the empire take place simultaneously at the annual equinox, at which time the Emperor visits the Temple of Heaven to clear himself of the sin of shedding blood.

Hence, if an ordinary criminal is sentenced the day after the autumnal equinox, he has a whole year of life still before him. Moreover, for a certain time before the equinox the Minister of Tortures receives and examines the lists of the condemned from all parts of the Empire, and reports to the Emperor the names of those least deserving of clemency. The Emperor then orders some to be executed forthwith, and respite others for another year. The sealed lists of the doomed are carried to all parts of the Empire by couriers. On a fixed day all the sentenced criminals are brought to a public place, where the sealed lists are opened and the Emperor's orders carried out on the spot. Some are beheaded with a sword or a common knife; some are strangled by being dragged over the ground, for the gibbet is not used in China. Beheading is regarded more shameful than strangling, for the latter leaves the body whole, while the former dismembers it.

At Mrs. Mackey's Banquet.

[Paris Letter.]

The beautiful hostess herself was attired in white brocade, trimmed with magnificent point lace, white satin and pearls. A high ruff, embroidered with pearls, rose from the back of her corsage and set off the graceful carriage of her

head. Mrs. Hist wore a Worth costume of white satin and voile de religieuse, trimmed with point d'Alencon. The arrangement of the draperies on the skirt was singularly graceful. Mrs. Noyes was in green satin. Mrs. Downing's dress was in pale lilac brocade of a new and exquisite shade. She wore a full set of diamonds and a bandeau of pearls and diamonds was placed in her hair.

Miss Downing was arrayed in pale blue silk, trimmed with Valenciennes lace and crushed crimson roses. Miss Eva Mackey's toilette was composed of pale blue Pekin and pale blue silk. Mrs. Lester wore white silk trimmed with lace. Mrs. Hueston's dress was a white crape and white silk, beautifully embroidered in a pattern of shaded gold and garnet beads representing feathers, and she wore a set of diamond ornaments. The Duchess de Bojano was attired in pale blue satin elaborately embroidered with flowers in their natural hues, and her hair was adorned with pale blue feathers.

Miss Reynolds' dress was of pale pink satin, trimmed with platings of tulle, and her mother wore black satin and jet with diamond ornaments. The Baroness de Kessler was arrayed in a black satin ball dress ornamented with many colored roses. Miss Hooper's dress was composed of black satin and Pekin, trimmed with lilac and purple daisies. Mrs. Fairman Rogers wore white silk, trimmed with lace embroidered with pearls. Mrs. Leeb was in dark blue satin with a skirt-front of cream ground Watteau brocade, richly trimmed with point lace. In all respects the entertainment was one of the most brilliant that has taken place this season in the American colony.

VANDALIA LINE.

The Vandalia Line

From Cincinnati to St. Louis is now running a special line of magnificent Pullman Palace Sleeping Coaches for the accommodation of travel between the two cities.

This is an improvement that the traveling public will appreciate, as it assures one of choice of berths, something that can not be guaranteed by other lines whose sleeping cars come through from the seaboard cities.

The Vandalia sleepers start from Plum-street Depot every day at 7 p. m.; time to St. Louis Union Depot, where all Western connections are made, twelve hours. One trip over the Vandalia will convince the most skeptical that it is "the route" for first-class travelers. Tickets and berths may be secured at any time by applying to J. W. Pillsbury, Grand Hotel, E. V. Moss, Plum-street Depot, or S. Egan, Ticket Agent, northwest corner Fourth and Vine streets, Cincinnati, Ohio.

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